

CONNECTICUTY TRAUMA COMMITTEE MINUTES

Connecticut Hospital Association

March 19, 2015

PRESENT: Lenworth Jacobs, Chairman; Brendan Campbell, Elizabeth Denby-Callahan, Shea Gregg, Kelly Hansen, Florence Leishman, Robert Lincer, William Marshall, Jacqueline McQuay, Paul Possenti, Jim Santacroce, Kevin Schuster, Subramani Seetharama, David Shapiro,

GUEST: Garry Lapidus, Connecticut Children's Medical Center

Dr. Jacobs called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and approved.

Dr. Jacobs updated the group on the last meeting.

The state has two Level I Trauma Centers as well as hospitals which are prepared to receive patients who have the potential to have severe infectious diseases such as Ebola. Both Hartford Hospital and Yale New Haven Hospital have prepared receiving areas which are fully isolated for patients who have the potential to be infected with Ebola. They have trained personnel putting on and operating in fully protective gear. These centers have been visited by the Federal Government and commended for the degree of sophistication of the preparation. It is of note that the trauma system network of identifying lead centers and having these centers prepared to deal with these kinds of emergencies has been an effective model for Connecticut.

Dr. Brendan Campbell gave an update on the national Committee on Trauma meeting. The new "Orange Book" which is the document which will be used for upcoming verification is now fully operational. All new trauma centers effective July 21, 2015 will be verified under this standard. There are changes which have been implemented. These changes reflect enhancements in quality of care and were outlined at the national meeting. Neurosurgery has to have a back-up on call of neurosurgeons available.

Dr. Campbell also noted that the recommendations of the Hartford Consensus group relative training lay and immediate responder personnel in bleeding control were discussed in detail. A course has been developed and initiated. This will be implemented nationally. The recommendations of the Hartford Consensus committee to enhance survival from active shooter and mass casualty events have been initiated and the implementation process has begun. Over 200,000 police officers have been trained and equipped nationally. All the FBI agents are in the process of being trained and equipped. In Connecticut both Hartford Hospital and Bridgeport Hospital have bleeding control bags in public places. The concept is that these bags will be located in proximity to automatic external defibrillators and ultimately place in public places such as malls, etc.

In February 2015, the leadership of 17 national medical organizations were invited to the White House to be briefed by National Security on the importance of being fully prepared for an explosive event in a public place. This was further outlined and emphasized by the announcement by the Secretary of Homeland Security relative to the potential for a terrorist attack on the Mall of America. There was unanimous agreement from the leadership of organized medicine that it was appropriate to empower, educate, and train the public as the immediate responders in these kinds of events. It is of note that the medical leadership of the National Football League and the National Baseball Association were present since these venues have very large numbers of people packed into tight spaces and are soft targets.

It is important that there is equipment available for immediate response in the event of an explosion. The committee was apprised of a document published by the FBI titled "Study of Active Shooter Incidents in the United

States between 2000 and 2013.” The document shows these events are increasing and the number of fatal events is also increasing.

Gary Lapidus, the Director of Injury Control at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, then addressed the group on the progress that has been made both nationally and Connecticut on injury control over the past 25 years. He outlined, in detail, the dramatic reduction in injuries from traumatic events. He emphasized the importance of prevention and injury interventions such as seatbelts, energy absorbing devices in cars, highway barriers which separate traffic, bicycle helmets, and educational strategies for teen drivers. This presentation clearly demonstrates the dramatic decrease in these injuries over time. There were a number of questions which were fully answered by Garry Lapidus.

The meeting was then adjourned. The next Connecticut Trauma Committee meeting will be on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 2:00 pm **at Hunter's Ambulance in Meriden.**

Respectfully submitted,

Flo Leishman